



# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Environmental Remediation at Superfund Sites

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests **\$3.5 billion in environmental remediation at Superfund National Priorities List sites** and reinstates the Superfund chemical taxes, making it one of the largest investments in American history to address the legacy pollution that harms the public health of communities and neighborhoods, creating good-paying jobs in hard-hit communities and advancing economic and environmental justice. More than one in four Black and Hispanic Americans live within three miles of a Superfund site. No community deserves to have contamination near where they live, work, pray and go to school. With this funding, communities living near many of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned releases of contamination will finally get the protections they deserve.

## Eliminating Construction Project Backlog

The first wave of funding will allow EPA to initiate work at all 49 Superfund sites with backlogged remedial construction projects in 24 states and territories, and accelerate cleanups at dozens of other sites across the country. Since 2000, with the exception of three years, EPA's Superfund appropriation has been insufficient to support the initiation of all Superfund site construction projects ready to begin work.

## Cleaning Up Sites Faster

In addition to eliminating the backlog of sites with remedial construction projects awaiting funding, funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will accelerate or complete work at ongoing cleanup projects and begin cleanup of additional Superfund projects that are currently in various phases of pre-construction and planning. This funding will make a dramatic difference in EPA's ability to clean up Superfund sites faster and more efficiently.

## Improving Community Health

Superfund cleanups address environmental and human health threats to protect communities living on and around Superfund sites. Studies have found that Superfund cleanups result in a 20-25% reduction in birth defects and a 13-26% reduction in the risk of elevated blood-lead levels among children living near Superfund sites. Funding will be used to address impacts from Superfund sites with a wide variety of contaminants, including those with lead as a primary or contributing contaminant. Cleaning up more of these sites means protecting more children from exposures to lead.

## Providing Economic Benefits

Superfund cleanups facilitate job creation and provide economic benefits to communities. In 2021, Superfund sites in reuse supported 10,230 businesses that employed more than 246,178 people and generated more than \$18 billion in employment income. Cleanups have allowed communities to reuse previously blighted properties for a wide range of purposes, including retail businesses, office space, public parks, residences, warehouses and solar power generation.

### What is Superfund?

For a variety of reasons, hazardous commercial and industrial wastes have been mismanaged over the years resulting in thousands of contaminated sites across the country that pose risks to human health and the environment.

EPA's Superfund Program cleans up the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned releases of contamination at polluted sites. It also forces the parties responsible for the contamination to either perform cleanups or reimburse the government for EPA-led cleanup work.

For information about Superfund, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund>

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